

STOCK TO PROVIDE HOME, CLERK SAYS

Walter Weidner Admits Embezzlement of \$16,000 From P. and R. Railway

'GOOD HUSBAND,' SAYS WIFE

A comfortable home and luxuries for his family not possible on his salary as a payroll clerk, it was testified today, absorbed most of the \$16,000 which Walter E. Weidner admitted embezzling from the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Co.

Weidner pleaded guilty today before Judge Barratt in Criminal Court No. 1, and was sentenced to not more than five years or not less than three years and six months in the Eastern Penitentiary.

The man's wife, who testified, said Weidner was a good husband and that he did everything possible to make life comfortable for herself and their nine-year-old child. The family formerly lived at 245 E. Fifth street, but after the trial the defendant also testified Weidner was a home-loving man, and did not gamble. It was stated he had bought a \$1500 automobile which was sold to a motorcar has been seized by an indemnity company.

Weidner received a salary of \$175 a month. He was employed in the auditor's disbursing department and made up summaries of the payroll. By juggling the payrolls he obtained the \$16,000 in fourteen months, he admitted.

The embezzlement could not cover them up much longer. He then fled to California where he was arrested May 6. He returned willingly and admitted the charges.

ROAD OFFICIALS SUSPENDED

Foreman Admits He Profited by Padding of Payrolls on Highway Work Harrisburg, Pa., May 18.—The State Highway Department last night, as the result of further investigation, directed the suspension of Justice M. Walmaley, of Norrisstown, as road superintendent of Montgomery County, and Edward Bytheway, of Norrisstown, a road foreman under the superintendent.

Six employees of the department are now under arrest in Montgomery County on charges of misappropriating funds and the disbursement of money as a result of the disclosures in Montgomery County.

Bytheway voluntarily came here today and the admittance to Deputy Attorney General Robert S. Gavettrop that through the padding of payroll accounts he had personally benefited to the extent of several hundred dollars.

MORE MEN ARE WORKING

Increased Employment Reported in April in Eight Major Industries

Washington, May 18.—Increased employment in eight major industries and decreased for the remaining six reported was shown in Labor Department figures for April.

The largest increase was in the automobile industry at 25.2 per cent, others being woolen, 22.3 per cent; hosiery and underwear, 7.6 per cent; men's clothing, 7 per cent; silk, 5.2 per cent; cigars, 5.6 per cent; cotton finishing, 3.7 per cent; boots and shoes, 8 per cent.

Decreases were car building and repairing, 12.3 per cent; iron and steel, 11.7 per cent; paper making, 11.4 per cent; coal mining, 3 per cent.

DISABLED VESSEL HERE

Former German-Owned Ship Taking Colonists to South America

While en route from Hamburg to Buenos Aires with a cargo of German colonists for the Argentine Republic, the steamer Bahia Blanca put into the Delaware Breakwater yesterday. She is believed to be disabled, and will come to Philadelphia to make repairs to her machinery and take South American cargo and passengers.

The Bahia Blanca is a 10,000-ton vessel and owned in Germany, and was interned during the war in Brazil. Her disposition after the armistice was a subject for international controversy. She is now owned by Argentina.

The ship left Buenos Aires on January 20 for Hamburg, and is now on her return trip.

Deaths of a Day

CHARLES J. RICH

Last Surviving Member of Old Theatrical Firm is Dead

Boston, May 18.—Charles J. Rich, a leading Boston theatrical manager, and said to have been the last surviving member of the original New York producing firm of Charles Frohman, Rich & Laertes, died at his home yesterday. He had been ill more than a year.

Mr. Rich was the son of Isaac B. Rich, also a theatrical manager. He was born here in 1855.

Al Hayman, another member of the old firm, was buried in New York on Monday.

Has Military Funeral

West Chester, Pa., May 18.—A military funeral for the remains of the late Norman D. Denney, of James Pennell, South High street, took place this afternoon and was largely attended. Pennell and Henry Clay, also of this place, were in the same regiment and were on patrol duty at night when Clay accidentally stumbled over a wire attached to a ground bomb. Clay was killed, Pennell fatally wounded. Clay's body will arrive at Hoboken on Saturday.

Bugler Guy E. Will

Pottstown, Pa., May 18.—Bugler Guy E. Will, of Company A, 11th Regiment, Twenty-ninth Division, died at a hospital at Pottstown, Pa., from lung trouble, caused by being gassed while fighting in France. He was a son of James H. Will, of Pottstown, and was aged twenty-five years. He will be given a military funeral on Saturday in Pottstown.

DEATHS

GRIFFITHS.—On May 17, 1921, GEORGE W. GRIFFITHS, Relative and friend in law to the family of Mrs. J. M. Griffiths, at his late residence, 4511 Baltimore Ave. Interment private.

HOPKINS.—On May 17, 1921, N. J. May 17, 1921, EMMA RAMSAY HOPKINS, formerly of Haddonfield, N. J., Relative and friend in law to the family of Mrs. J. M. Griffiths, at her late residence, 4511 Baltimore Ave. Interment private.

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Bergdoll Lawyer Defies Probers

Continued from Page One

perurbed by the prospect of a public trial by the House. Mrs. Bergdoll has refused to give up her books to the Bergdoll Investigating Committee, as she promised when she testified. The committee probably will send for them.

Joseph P. McDevitt, Department of Justice operative in Philadelphia, said that at the Bergdoll home last night he was told Mrs. Bergdoll was ill. The day before, he told the committee, Mrs. Bergdoll said she would give him an itemized statement of her accounts. He said he expected to get the books for the committee soon.

John F. Bromley, for many years private secretary for Gibbonney, testified, asked if he knew anything about Judge John W. Westcott's connection with the case, he said: "I know Mr. Gibbonney told me he had taken Judge Westcott into the case."

He told Judge Westcott called at Gibbonney's office. Upon Judge Westcott's departure, Bromley said, Gibbonney told him Judge Westcott was getting "cold feet," but that he would be retained in the case in an "advisory capacity."

As far as he knew, he said, Judge Westcott had received no fees in the case.

The day before Bergdoll left on his "pot-of-gold" expedition, Bromley said, Gibbonney told him Bergdoll was to get out of Philadelphia in a few days.

He said Ansell and Baily wanted their fee and they wanted this money somewhere where they could put their hands on it," Bromley told the committee.

MRS. BERGDOLL ILL: MAY PAY ALL FINES

Mrs. Emma C. Bergdoll, mother of the draft dodger, Greger and Erwin, is ill today at a change from a sore throat after the excitement of having sentence imposed upon her yesterday by Judge Dickinson, in the United States District Court.

Inquiry at her home elicited the information that "Mrs. Bergdoll was sick and could not be seen." The nature or extent of her illness was not disclosed.

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U. S. CHIEF JUSTICE WHITE NEAR DEATH

Jurist Has Not Rallied From Sinking Spell Following Chill

RECOVERY NOT EXPECTED

By the Associated Press

Washington, May 18.—Physicians attending Chief Justice Edward Douglas White, of the United States Supreme Court, announced at 10 A. M. today that their patient had not rallied from the sinking spell of late yesterday, and that his recovery was not expected.

The doctors issued the following bulletin: "Chief Justice White was operated upon on Friday last. Although in a serious condition for some months past, he postponed the operation, as he felt his presence at the court was imperative. His progress was satisfactory with normal pulse and temperature until Tuesday afternoon, when a chill occurred. He has not rallied from this condition and recovery is not expected."

"THOMAS R. HATCHER, M. D., THOMAS A. CLAYTON, M. D., THOMAS S. LEE, M. D."

At noon the physicians attending the Chief Justice said there had been no change in the patient's condition and that he might last through today and tonight, but that there was nothing upon which to base an alteration from their previous diagnosis.

Immediately following the operation at a local hospital for bladder trouble, Chief Justice White's condition had improved, and he had been up in the afternoon, when he suffered an unexpected chill and then declined rapidly. He has remained unconscious since late last night.

On hearing of his critical condition, Justice McKenna and other of his associates in the Supreme Court visited the hospital last night, but not until the Chief Justice had lapsed into unconsciousness. Members of the immediate family remained at the bedside throughout the night.

For four months he had not been well, his work, saying that it was important and if necessary he would die rather than stop for treatment.

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PAYMASTER ACCUSED OF THEFT



Franklin L. Wright, of Sharon Hill, alleged absconding paymaster of a big drug firm, who disappeared several days ago with the payroll and other funds totaling \$2500, and who was arrested today. He is said to have confessed that he lost most of the money betting on the races. The man wearing a straw hat is John Redding, a city detective, who arrested Wright.

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RICH RECLOSE, 92, ATTEMPTS SUICIDE

William Warnock, Said to Be a Philadelphian, Believed Dying

LIVING IN ATLANTIC CITY

Atlantic City, May 18.—Fatally wounding himself in an attempt at suicide, William Warnock, ninety-two years old, said to be a wealthy Philadelphian, is in a dying condition in the Waggoner Hospital, a private institution.

He shot himself with a small pearl-handled revolver in his apartment in the fashionable Beach Apartments, Maryland avenue near the Boardwalk, where he has led a hermit-like life, and little was known of him among neighbors.

The aged man has been a resident here for the last six years, and until two years ago he was active. He has been in ill health since 1910 and has led the life of a recluse in a \$175-a-month apartment within a few steps of the Boardwalk since then. His only visitor during that time has been Andrew Wells, the janitor, who took him one meal a day.

Little is known of Warnock here. A woman believed to be his sister is Mrs. Clara Grismer, 133 Hollywood avenue, East Orange. Another sister, whose name is not known here, lives somewhere in Philadelphia. Warnock always was well supplied with money from a Philadelphia source.

MURRANO TRIAL DELAYED

Only Two Negroes Chosen in Detective McGinn Murder Case

Trial of Christopher Murrano, on the charge of murdering Detective Joseph McGinn October 5, 1920, in a raid on a gambling house at 816 Passyunk avenue, was delayed in Judge Smith's court this morning because of difficulty in securing a jury.

The entire morning session was consumed in calling veniremen, and only one juror was selected in addition to Thomas Murray, who was chosen yesterday afternoon. The juror chosen just before noon today is Charles Wayne, a painter, 7032 Keystone street.

Every juror called in the case is asked if he would find for conviction of murder in the first degree on purely circumstantial evidence.

This question was made necessary, it is said, because all of the thirty gamblers who saw McGinn murdered are afraid to testify. The word has gone out in the underworld, it is said, that the man who "squeals" will be marked for death.

FENCIBLES MUST MOVE

State Military Organization Ordered Out—Site to Be City Hall Annex

The State Fencibles, one of the oldest military organizations in the city, is to be notified to vacate immediately their armory on Broad street south of Race, as the city is preparing to erect a City Hall annex on that site and surrounding grounds.

A motor sales company has headquarters at the southeast corner of Broad and Race streets. Notice to vacate will be served on that concern also.

The State Fencibles' armory occupies a plot 58 by 130 feet. The site was bought by the city February 2, 1854. It is understood another location will be obtained for the organization, although its officers are said to be reluctant to give up the Broad street headquarters.

LEAVES ESTATE TO K. OF P.

Fraternal Body Benefits by Will of Edward J. Donnogh

With the exception of \$1600 left to relatives and friends, the \$7500 estate of Edward J. Donnogh, 3421 Wood-lawn avenue, will go to the Knights of Pythias under his will, which was filed for probate today.

Mr. Donnogh left \$500 to Lodge 233, \$300 to the Masonic Home at Elizabethtown, Pa., and the residue to the grand lodge of the order.

Letter of administration was issued today to the widow of Dr. P. Norbert Bergeron, who died a week ago of an infection contracted while operating on a patient. Dr. Bergeron left an estate of \$2500.

SIGNS TAX INCREASE BILLS

Governor Approves Numerous Measures Calling for High Borough Rates

Harrisburg, Pa., May 18.—(By A. P.)—Bills governing increase of taxation rates by boroughs and townships were among those approved by Governor William C. Sproul today. The Mayor amendment to the borough code authorizes Councils to increase the tax for general borough purposes from ten to fifteen mills, while the Pike bill empowers township commissioners to petition Quarter Sessions Courts for permission to increase township taxes from ten to fifteen mills. The Governor has approved the Marzoli bill.

Borough code amendments approved include right of council to define and punish disorderly conduct, limiting pay of borough treasurers to not more than 2 per cent of funds disbursed.

The Whiteman bill, providing prisons in third and fourth class counties, not having special prison management laws, shall be managed by a board consisting of Judges, Sheriff, District Attorney, Controller and Commissioners, was also signed. The act applies only to counties where the sheriff is now the warden and would provide for election of a warden.

Under terms of another bill, Quarter Sessions Courts instead of Common Pleas would fill election board vacancies.

WELFARE PLAN OPPOSED

Proposed Absorption of Educational Agencies Brings Protest

Washington, May 18.—(By A. P.)—Further opposition to absorption of Government educational agencies by the proposed new Department of Public Welfare was expressed today at a joint hearing of Senate and House education committees by prominent educators. They asked for a separate department of education, though some of them suggested that the Department of Welfare be created.

H. S. McGill, legislative representative of the National Educational Association, said 95 per cent of the expenditures of the proposed Public Welfare Department would be for soldier relief.

J. B. Crabtree, secretary of the association, urged that the present Bureau of Education in the Department of Interior be left unchanged rather than merged into the Public Welfare Department.

Telegrams and statements from State education superintendents, university and college heads and professors and other prominent educators were presented to the committee, all opposing merger of Government educational work in the Public Welfare Department.

MAYOR PUSHES BEACH WORK

Signs Contract for Improvement of Public Recreation Spot

Mayor Moore's plan for another bathing beach was pushed further ahead today, when he signed a contract for the dredging and filling in of the proposed beach at West Leaning Island Park. The work will be done by the American Dredging Co.

Director Cavan of Public Works, expects to have the beach ready for the public by the middle of June.

The Mayor also signed a contract with Thomas L. Flinnigan, who will furnish horses and teams for the proposed cleaning up of mosquito breeding spots in South Philadelphia.

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